

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

888888



Application No.:

09/551,291

Filed: April 18, 2000

Inventors:

Brett B. Stewart, James W. Thompson, Kathleen E.

McClelland

Title:

A Distributed Network

Communication System which Enables Multiple

Network Providers to use a

Common Distributed
Network Infrastructure

Examiner:

Nguyen, Thong-Thai

T.

Group/Art Unit:

2185

Atty. Dkt. No: 5285-04800

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date indicated below.

Jeffrey C. Hood

Printed Name

Signature

Date

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF DECEMBER 19, 2002

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Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

**Technology Center 2100** 

Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action of December 19, 2002, to further highlight why the application is in condition for allowance.

Please amend the case as listed below.